

Statement of Philosophy

The purpose of the Ripon Christian Schools is to provide a fully accredited education which is God-centered. By this we mean that we believe:

1. God is the source of all knowledge and truth.
2. The Bible is His revelation to mankind, inspired and infallible.
3. A clear understanding of ourselves and the world in which we live is possible only in the light of His word.
4. All areas of study, activities, attitudes, and conduct must be subject to His revealed will.

To that end Ripon Christian Schools employs dedicated Christian educators to educate the children entrusted to its care. These educators are committed to a sound Biblical philosophy of life. Their Christian dedication and commitment will be illustrated in their educational attainment and professional application. The manifestations of personality in dress, speech and behavior are directed by the best interests of student, colleague, school, and community as related to God's revelation.

The role Ripon Christian Schools is to set up an educational program in which everything that is taught or done will pass through these three screens: (1) A scripturally, theologically based philosophy of education. (2) A psychology of learning with a Christian view of the child as a child of God and of the covenant with God. (3) An estimate of the needs and characteristics of the contemporary society in which the child must live-in which he must serve, honor and glorify his God.

The Christian school is the present day vehicle for fulfilling the command of the Lord concerning the nurturing of His children. We believe that the Christian school is wholly necessary to implement the commands to teach "diligently to your children the words which I command you this day" and "to subdue the earth." The inspired Word of God gives the authoritative answer to the first question in education, "Why a Christian school?" God reveals Himself in the Bible and His creation. The Christian school gives the Bible a prominent place and hence plays an important role in transmitting to our children their spiritual heritage.

The Christian school, moreover, is concerned with mastery of the fundamentals of human knowledge, and as such plays a major role in transmitting to our children their cultural heritage. A school is an effective place for learning and only the Christian school can integrate the two levels of God's revelation into a meaningful whole.

There is also a scientific answer to God's requirement. The child is created a spiritual being. All learning centers around religious values. Secular schools are deprived of the privilege of winding instruction around the core of values of historic, orthodox Christian truth. They must substitute a set of values vaguely called "democracy." In the focus of Christian faith as interpreted by Reformed creeds, the Christian school musters all of man's faculties for a study of God's revelations so that intellectual, social, emotional, and physical development is given unity, direction, and balance.

The touchstone of human relations in the Christian school is a personal concern for each other in the spirit of the law and love. This promise should be in evidence of the general atmosphere of the school, in the relationships of teachers and pupils, and finally in the relationships which the Board of Trustees' membership necessitates. The fulfillment of this basic requirement affords a great deal of satisfaction.